No.



8200168

HHE UNITHED SHAMES OF AMIERICA

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Lofts Seed Inc.

Willieuras, there has been presented to the

Secondition Of Panagestigianes

AN APPLICATION REQUESTING A CERTIFICATE OF PROTECTION FOR AN ALLEGED NOVEL VARIETY OF SEXUALLY REPRODUCED PLANT, THE NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN THE APPLICATION AND EXHIBITS, A COPY OF WHICH IS HEREUNTO ANNEXED AND MADE A PART HEREOF, AND THE VARIOUS REQUIREMENTS OF LAW IN SUCH CASES MADE AND PROVIDED HAVE BEEN COMPLIED WITH, AND THE TITLE THERETO IS, FROM THE RECORDS OF THE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE, IN THE APPLICANT(S) INDICATED IN THE SAID COPY, AND WHEREAS, UPON DUE EXAMINATION MADE, THE SAID APPLICANT(S) IS (ARE) ADJUDGED TO BE ENTITLED TO A CERTIFICATE OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW.

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS CERTIFICATE OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION IS TO GRANT UNTO THE SAID APPLICANT(S) AND THE SUCCESSORS, HEIRS OR ASSIGNS OF THE SAID APPLICANT(S) FOR THE TERM OF eighteen years from the date of this grant, subject to the payment of the required fees and periodic replenishment of viable basic seed of the variety in a public repository as provided by LAW, the right to expect others from selling the variety, or offering it for sale, or reproducing it, corting it, or exporting it, or using it in producing a hybrid or different therefrom, to the extent provided by the Plant Variety Protection Act 2, as amended, 7 u.s.c. 2321 et seq.)

HARD FESCUE

'Reliant'

In Instimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the scal of the Plant Variety Protection Office to be affixed at the City of Washington

this 28th day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand nine adred and eighty-three.

Such

Tenneth H. Evan

commissioner Plant Variety Protection Offic

Grain Division Anxiontivent Machetica Gr ~ It while

ary of Agriculture

| | AGRICULTURAL M LIVESTOCK, MEAT, G | T OF AGRICULEUM IARKETING SERVIC RAIN & SEED DIVI | CF | FORM APPROVED: OMB NO.0581- |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| | APPLICATION FOR PLANT VAR | | | No certificate for plant variety protect may be issued unless a completed a cation form has been received (5 U 553). |
| | 1. NAME OF APPLICANT(S) | 2 | . TEMPORARY DESIGNATION | |
| • | LOFTS SEED INC. | | FL-1 | RELIANT |
| | 4. ADDRESS (Street and No. or R.F.D. No., City, Sta CHIMNEY ROCK ROAD BOX 146 | ite, and Zip Code) 5 | . PHONE (Include area code) | FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY PVPO NUMBER |
| | BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY | 08805 | (201)560-1590 | 8200168 |
| | 6. GENUS AND SPECIES NAME | 7. FAMILY NAME | (Botanical) | DATE |
| | | | | 8/30/82 TIME |
| | Festuca longifolia Thuill. | Gramineae | | 2:00 A.M. XP.N |
| | 8, KIND NAME | 9. D | ATE OF DETERMINATION | AMOUNT FOR FILING |
| | Hard Fescue | | January 1980 | \$ 500.00 DATE 8/30/82 AMOUNT FOR CERTIFICATE |
| | 10. IF THE APPLICANT NAMED IS NOT A "PERSO partnership, association, etc.) | N," GIVE FORM OF | ORGANIZATION (Corporation | 8/30/82 AMOUNT FOR CERTIFICATE |
| | portiessing, association, etc.) | | | \$ 250.00 |
| | Corporation | | | 2/4/83 |
| | 11. IF INCORPORATED, GIVE STATE OF INCORPORT New Jersey | DRATION | | 12. DATE OF INCORPORATION 11/10/48 |
| • | 13. NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT REPRES | SENATIVE(S), IF AN | Y. TO SERVE IN THIS APPLIC | ATION AND RECEIVE ALL BARESS |
| | Robert W. Duell | | Richard Hurley | Research Director |
| м, | Soils & Crops Dept. | | Lofts Seed Inc. | |
| This way in any | New Jersey Agricultural Exper New Brunswick, New Jersey 0890 | iment Sta. | Chimney Rock Ro | |
| | 14. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX FOR EACH ATTAC | | Bound Brook, Ne | w Jersey 08805 |
| And the second | Bukikis A Osisis and D. 19 and A | | | |
| | Exhibit A, Origin and Breeding History of the Section 52 of the Plant Variety Protection Acts. b. X Exhibit B, Novelty Statement 15. DOES THE APPLICANT(5) SPECIFY THAT SEER | Variety (Sec | c. Exhibit C, Objective I from Plant Variety Pr. | Description of the Variety |
| | a. X Exhibit A, Origin and Breeding History of the Section 52 of the Plant Variety Protection Ac b. X Exhibit B, Novelty Statement 15. DOES THE APPLICANT(S) SPECIFY THAT SEED SEED? (See Section 83(a) of the Plant Variety Pro | O OF THIS VARIETY fection Act.) | c. Exhibit C, Objective I from Plant Variety Productional d. Exhibit D, Additional Y BE SOLD BY VARIETY NAM Yes (If "Yes," answer | Description of the Variety E ONLY AS A CLASS OF CERTIFIED items 16 and 17 below) |
| | a. X Exhibit A, Origin and Breeding History of the Section 52 of the Plant Variety Protection Act b. X Exhibit B, Novelty Statement 15. DOES THE APPLICANT(S) SPECIFY THAT SEED SEED? (See Section 83(a) of the Plant Variety Pro 16. DOES THE APPLICANT(S) SPECIFY THAT THIS LIMITED AS TO NUMBER OF GENERATIONS? | O OF THIS VARIETY fection Act.) | c. Exhibit C, Objective I from Plant Variety Productional d. Exhibit D, Additional Y BE SOLD BY VARIETY NAM Yes (If "Yes," answer | Description of the Variety E ONLY AS A CLASS OF CERTIFIED (Items 16 and 17 below) |
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INSTRUCTIONS

General: Send an original copy of the application and exhibits, at least 2,500 viable seeds, and \$500 fee (\$250 filing fee and \$250 examination fee) to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, Livestock, Meat, Grain and Seed Division, Plant Variety Protection Office, National Agricultural Library Building, Beltsville, Maryland 20705. (See section 180.175 of the Regulations and Rules of Practice.) Retain one copy for your files. All items on the face of the form are self-explanatory unless noted below.

Item

- Give the date the applicant determined that he had a new variety based on (1) the definition in section 41(a) of the Act and (2) the date a decision was made to increase the seed.
- Give: (1) the genealogy, including public and commercial varieties, lines, or clones used, and the breeding method; (2) the details of subsequent stages of selection and multiplication; (3) the type and frequency of variants during reproduction and multiplication and state how these variants may be identified and (4) evidence of uniformity and stability.
- Give a summary statement of the variety's novelty. Clearly state how this novel variety may be distinguished from all other varieties in the same crop. If the new variety most closely resembles one or a group of related varieties: (1) identify these varieties and state all differences objectively; (2) attach statistical data for characters expressed numerically and demonstrate that these differences are significant; and (3) submit, if helpful, seed and plant specimens or photographs of seed and plant comparisons clearly indicating novelty.
- 14c Fill in the Exhibit C, Objective Description form, for all characteristics for which you have adequate data.
- Describe any additional characteristics that are not described, or whose description cannot be accurately conveyed in Exhibit C. Use comparative varieties as is necessary to reveal more accurately the description of characteristics that are difficult to describe, such as plant habit, plant color, disease resistance, etc.
- If "Yes" is specified (seed of this variety be sold by variety name only as a class of certified seed) the applicant may NOT reverse his affirmative decision after the variety has either been sold and so labeled, his decision published, or the certificate has been issued. However, if the applicant specified "No," he may change his choice. (See section 180.16 of the Regulations and Rules of Practice.)
- See section 42 of the Plant Variety Protection Act and section 180.7 of the Regulations and Rules of Practice.

GPO 890-698



Exhibit A - Origin and Breeding History of 'Reliant'

The parental germplasm of Reliant Hard Fescue was developed by screening over 30,000 seedlings for resistance to the powdery mildew disease incited by Erysiphe graminis D. C. Cultivars of European origin and germplasm accessions collected from old turfs were used. Over 3700 powdery mildew resistant seedlings were selected and established in a spaced-plant field nursery. Immediately before anthesis, 138 plants were selected and transferred to isolated nurseries for cross-pollination. Selection was based on freedom from disease, an attractive bright medium dark green color, a lower turf-type growth habit, uniform maturity and promise of high seed yield potential.

Seed from each plant was subsequently planted in individual turf evaluation plots subjected to frequent mowing at 2cm. Seedlings were selected from turf plots having the best overall performance ratings and subjected to a second cycle of greenhouse screening for powdery mildew resistance. Nearly 2,000 attractive powdery mildew resistant seedlings were selected during greenhouse evaluation and transferred to a spaced-plant field nursery. Prior to anthesis, 43 of the most attractive plants with the best performance records were removed from this nursery and transplanted to an isolation block for the production of breeder seed.

Breeder seed was used to send out samples to universities throughout the United States and Canada for turf evaluations and to establish a two acre foundation field in Western Oregon in the Spring of 1980. In May 1982 a 30 acre field was established which will produce certified seed.

No off-type plants or variants have been observed in the reproduction and multiplication of Reliant. Reliant is a stable and uniform variety. Breeder seed harvested in 1979 and 1980 and foundation seed harvested in 1981 have produced turf and seed fields of equal quality and acceptable uniformity.

EXHIBIT B

STATEMENT OF NOVELTY OF RELIANT HARD FESCUE

'Reliant' can be distinguished from all other cultivars by the combination of spaced-plant and turf characteristics shown in Tables 1-16.

Reliant most closely resembles both Scaldis and Biljart.

However, Reliant is significantly more resistant to powdery

mildew incited by Erysiphe graminis D. C. (Table 1).

Table 1. Reaction of hard fescue cultivars to powdery mildew incited by Erysiphe graminis D. C. under greenhouse conditions, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

| 1977 ————9=mo 8.0 | 1982 est resistance | 1982 |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | } |
| 8.0 | Е 1 | |
| | 5.1 | 7.3 |
| 4.3 | 3.5 | 2.3 |
| 4.0 | - | 0.8 |
| - | 1.4 | 2.0 |
| _ | 0.9 | 0.0 |
| _ | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| 0.6 | | |
| | - - | - 1.4 - 0.9 - 0.5 |

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE LIVESTOCK, MEAT, GRAIN & SEED DIVISION PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND 20705

EXHIBIT C (Fine Leaved Fescues)

OBJECTIVE DESCRIPTION OF VARIETY FINE LEAVED FESCUES

| | | (Festuca spp.) | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| NAME OF APP | LICANT(S) | TEMPORARY DE | SIGNATION V | ARIETY NAME | |
| | s Seed Inc. | FL-1 | | Reliant Hard I | |
| ADDRESS (Str | reet and No. or R.F.D. No., City, State, and Zip ney Rock Road | Code) | | FOR OFFICIAL | USE ONLY |
| Box | | | . PV | PO NUMBER 6200 | 120 |
| | d Brook, New Jersey 08805 | | | CACCE | 100 |
| or 0 9). | priate number that describes the varietal charac Characteristics described including numerical m PLANTS. Royal Horticultural Society or any | neasurements, should repr recognized color fan may | esent those that ar be used to determ | e typical for the variety. | Measured data should system used: |
| 1. SPECIES: (| With comparison varieties for use below - use va | rieties within species of a | pplication variety) | | |
| 5 1 | = F, rubra ssp. commutata (Chewings) | 11 = Cascade 14 = Banner | 12.= Highlight 15.= Barfalla | 13 = Jamestowr | 1 |
| 2 | = F. rubra ssp. litoralis (Greeping Red) | 21 = Dawson | 22 = Starlight | 23 = Merlin | |
| 3 - | = F. rubra ssp. rubra (Spreading Red) | 24 = Pennlawn 31 = Boreal 34 = Ensylva | 32 = Ruby | 33 = Fortress | |
| 4 : | = F, ovina (Sheep) | 41 = Covar | | | |
| 5 : | = F. longifolia (Hard) | 51 = Durar | 52 = Biljart (C | -26) 53 = Scaldis | |
| 6 = | F. tenuifolia (Fine-Leaved Sheep) | 61 = Panda | 62 = Barok | | |
| 7 : | Other (Specify) F. | 4 | | | |
| · · | Strong (Specify) 1. | | | | |
| . CYTOLOGY | · | | - | | |
| 1 2 Ch | nromosome Number Ploidy | 1 = diploid 4 = octoploid | 2 = tetraploid | 3 = hexaploid | |
| 2 No | | orth Central 2 | Pacific N.W. | 2 Other (Specify) | temporate <u>climates</u> |
| 3] 10/6/82 0/9//-1= | | ion(s) of Trail(s) Hubb = Early (Highlight) = Late (Jamestown, Agra | 3 | JON = Medium Early (Boreal = Very Late | Dawson} |
| 1 | te Headed _5/30/80 | - - - | | | |
| | ys earlier than | - (Table 2) |) | | • |
| Ma | iturity same as | Comparison Vari | iety | | |
| | ys later than | 2 } | | | |
| PLANT HEI | GHT: (At maturity; to top of panicle; Average | of 10 tallest culms) | | | |
| 0 2 6 | mm height | | | | |
| | mm shorter than |]) , | | | • |
| | Height same as | 2 (Table 3) | | • | |
| 2 0 | mm taller than | 3 | | | |
| . GROWTH HA | ABIT: (Mature) | | | | |
| 2 | 1 = Erect (Ruby) 2 = Semi-ere | ect (Highlight) | 3 = Prostrate (Silv | ana) | |
| RHIZOMES: | | | | | |
| | mm Length mm Width | mm In | ternode length | 4 | 4 |
| 1 | 1 = Absent (Highlight) 2 4 = Very Strongly Creeping (Fortress) | = Weakly Creeping (Daws | son)* . 3 | = Strongly Creeping (Bo | real) |

| 8. LEAF BLA | ADE: | | |
|-------------|---|---|--|
| 3 | Color: 1 = Light Green (Starlight) 4 = Dark Green (Jamestown, Manoir) 7 = Other (Specify) | 2 = Medium Light Green (Highlight) 5 = Bluegreen (Saphir) | 3 = Medium Dark Green (Ruby, Agram) 6 = Graygreen (Scaldis) |
| | Glaucosity (Sowing Year): 1 = Abs | ent (Koket) 2 = Present (Vendome) | |
| 1 | Anthocyanin: 1 = Absent 2 = Pres | ent | 2 = Present |
| 1 | Margins: 1 = Smooth 2 = Semi-rough | 3 = Rough | |
| | Margin folding (closure): 1 = Rolled inw | ard (closed-Highlight) 2 = Flat (or | pen-Jamestown, Engina) |
| 3 | Width class: 1 = Very Fine (Agram, Frida) 3 = Medium Fine (Fortress, Ruby, Scal | 2 = Fine (Jamestown, Highlight dis) 4 = Medium Coarse (Engina) | , Banner, Dawson) |
| 0 6 7 | mm Length (flag leaf) | | |
| 2 2 | mm Shorter than | (Table 4) | |
| | Blade length same as | Comparison Variety | ý. |
| | mm Longer than , | [] | |
| 1 2 0 | mm Width (flag leaf) | | , |
| 0.60 | mm Narrower than | | |
| | Blade width same as | Comparison Variety (Table 5) | |
| | mm Wider than | | |
| 9. LEAF SHE | ATH: 10/22/82/ Anthocyanin (seedling): 1 = Absent (Hi | ghlight) 2 = Present (Jamestown, Fortre | ss, Marga) |
| 1 | Auricle Hairiness: 1 = Absent | 2 = Present | |
| <u> </u> | Margins: 1 = Open (Highlight) | 2 = Closed (Jamestown) | |
| 10. PANICLE | (Mature plant): | | |
| | Shape: 1 = Narrow-tapering 2 = 0 | lvate 3 = Oblong 4 = Oth | er (Specify) |
| [2] | Type: 1 = Open 2 = Interme | diate 3 = Compact | |
| | Orientation: 1 = Erect 2 = N | lodding | • |
| | Branch Pubescence: 1 = Glabrous | 2 = Pubescent | |
| [3] | Anther Color: | 2 = Green 3 = Bluish Gree | en 4 = Purplish |
| | Glume Color (At 50% flowering): | 6 = Other (Specify) | |
| 1 1 4 | mm Length | | |
| 10 | mm Shorter than | | |
| | Panicle length same as | (Table 6) Comparison Variety | |
| | mm Longer than | | |
| 11. PALEA: | | | |
| 2 | Hairs (On keels or margins): 1 = Absent 3 = Long (R | (Banner) 2 = Short (Agram, Scaldis, O ainier, Fortress, Jamestown) | lds) |

| 12. LEMMA (| Mature): 9911,0/22/82 | |
|--------------|---|---|
| | Hairs: 1 = Absent (Jamestown) 2 = Several | 3 = Many (Highlight) |
| 4 6 | mm Lemma Length | |
| 0 4 | mm Shorter than | 7 - 77 |
| | Lemma length same as | le 7) son Variety |
| | mm Longer than | |
| 0 0 1 | mm Lemma Width | |
| | mm Narrower than | 10.01 |
| • | | le 8) son Variety |
| | mm Wider than | |
| 2 | Awns: 1 = Absent 2 = Present | |
| 2 2 | mm Awn Length | |
| 0.7 | mm Shorter than | 2.01 |
| | Awn length same as | son Variety |
| 0 3 | mm Longer than | |
| 13. SEED (Wi | th lemma & palea): | |
| 4 | rolf Size Class (g/1000 seed): | |
| | | 1.1g (Jamestown, Highlight) 3g (Boreal, Golfrood) |
| 1 7 6 7 | mg per 1000 seed | |
| 0 0 5 2 | mg per 1000 seed less than | |
| | Seed Weight same as | (Table 10) Comparison Variety |
| | mg per 1000 more than | |
| 14. DISEASE, | INSECT, AND NEMATODE REACTION (0 = Not Tested, 1 = \$ | usceptible, 2 = Resistant): |
| | Melting-out Drechslera poae | 2 Stripe rust P. striiformis |
| | (Helminthosporium vagans) | 2 Leaf rust P. poae-nemoralis |
| | Leaf spot D. siccans | O P. crandallii |
| | 2 Net blotch D. dictyoides (Table 11) | 2 Pythium Blight Pythium ultimum |
| | Leaf spot Bipolaris sorokiniana | 2 Red thread Corticium fusciforme |
| | Brown patch Rhizoctonia solani | 2 Dollar spot Sclerotinia homoeocarpa (Table 12) |
| • | Powdery mildew Erysiphe gramin(STable 1) | O Insect |
| | Stripe smut Ustilago striiformis | 0 Nematode |
| | F. Patch, Pink snow-mold Fusarium nivale | 2 Other Colletotrichum graminicola |
| | Eusarium blight F. tricinctum, F. roseum | Other |
| | 2 Gray snow mold Typhula iotana | Other |
| | 2 Stem rust Puccinia graminis | |

- 15. GIVE VARIETY OR VARIETIES THAT MOST CLOSELY RESEMBLE THE APPLICATION VARIETY. For the following characteristics indicate Degree of Resemblance by placing the column marked, D.R., one of the following numbers:
 - 1 = Application variety is less than comparison variety.

2 = Same As

3 = More than, better, greater, darker, more disease resistant, etc.

| CHARACTER | VARIETY | D. | .R. | CHARACTER | VARIETY | D.R. | |
|-----------------|---------------|-------|-----|---------------|---------------|------|----|
| Rhizome Length | NA | | | Growth Habit | Biljart/Scald | is 2 | |
| Leaf Width | Biljart/Scald | lis 2 | 2 | Leaf Color | Biljart/Scald | is 2 | |
| Panicle Color | Biljart/Scald | lis 2 | 2 | Panicle Shape | Biljart/Scald | is 2 | *4 |
| Winter Color | Biljart/Scald | lis 2 | 2 | Cold Injury | Biljart/Scald | is 2 | |
| Shade Tolerance | Biljart/Scald | lis 2 | 2 | Heat | Biljart/Scald | is 2 | |
| ⊡rought | Biljart/Scald | lis 2 | 2 | Disease* | Biljart/Scalo | is 3 | |
| | | | | | | | |

^{*} Specify each disease evaluated. Erysiphe graminis (Table 1)

Describe all characteristics that cannot be adequately described in the form above in Exhibit D. Comparative varieties should be used as may be appropriate, such as for disease. Append all comparative trial and evaluation data, including measured characters, environmental, and disease tests.

^{16.} ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION: (Use additional sheets as required)

EXHIBIT D

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION OF RELIANT

'Reliant' is a leafy, persistent, turf-type hard fescue capable of producing an attractive, very dense, low growing, fine textured turf with limited or no supplemental irrigation and fertilization in New Jersey.

Widely spaced seedlings give rise to densly tufted plants, with culms erect or slightly bent at the base, slender and stiff, with nodes usually black but occasionally tinged with red-purple. In a test conducted at Adelphia, New Jersey two year old plants attained a mean circumference of 77.9cm (Table 13) contained 57 culms/plant (Table 14), with an upper internode length of 33cm (Table 14). Ripe panicles weighed 104mg per year-old plant (Table 14). Closely spaced seedlings mowed frequently developed an exceptionally dense tight turf of stiff upright fine foliage. Leaves under turf conditions are deeply infolded, and sharply pointed. Turf maintains green color very well in midsummer. Hairs on keels of palea and lemma are short. Seeds tightly held by hardened lemma and palea and measure 2.5x0.8mm.

Figure 1 is a photograph of a gel slab that shows the banding pattern of esterases developed from protein extracts of seeds of hard fescues.

Banding patterns of the seven commercial samples of certified seed of Scaldis appear very similar to each other, as do the five samples of Biljart. The two left hand columns of FL-1 (Reliant) each contain a conspicuous heavy band (x) attributed to known contaminants of foreign grass seeds. The above factors testify to the reproducibility and sensitivity of the isoelectric focusing technique employed.

It should be noted that the two right hand columns of FL-1 differ from those of any sample of Scaldis and Biljart in several aspects of the esterase banding patterns.

Specifically: band a of FL-1 Scaldis

band b of FL-1 Scaldis

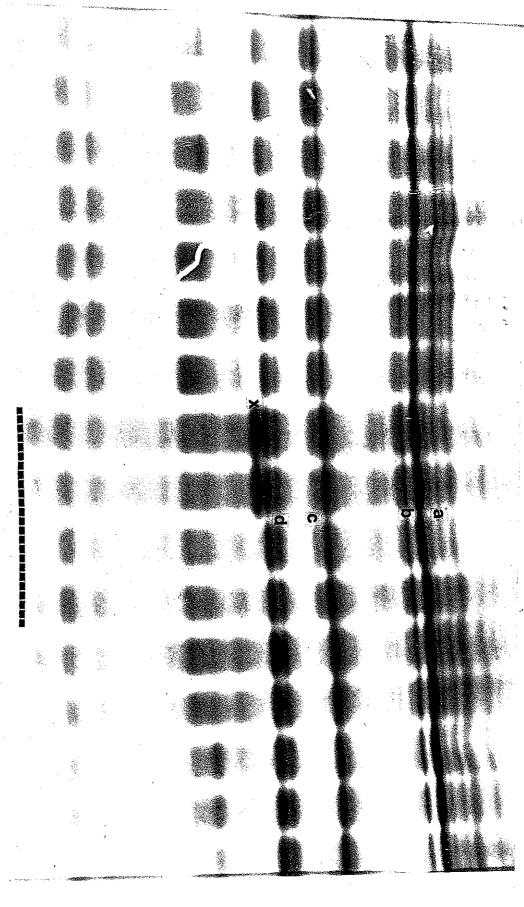
band c of FL-1 Scaldis

band c of FL-1 Biljart

band d of FL-1 Biljart

These differences provide evidence which may be used to distinguish FL-1 (Reliant) from Scaldis and Biljart. A description of the technique employed in developing Figure 1 will appear in an article entitled "Isoelectric Focusing of Esterases for Fine Fescue Identification" to be published in Crop Science. See attached letter from Dr. K. H. Asay. (See also Isozymes in Plant Breeding by Charles M. Rick).

FESTUCA OVINA subsp. DURIUSCULA



SCALDIS

BILJART

samples Biljart hard fescue Esterase patterns of seven commercial samples of Scaldis, duplicates of two samples of FL 1, and five

FILED

JAN 1 4 1996

LONNA R. HOOKS SECRETARY OF STATE

CERTIFICATE OF MERGER OF LOFTS SEED, INC. INTO LOFTS MERGERCO, INC.

To: The Secretary of State State of New Jersey

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 14A:10-7 Corporations, General, of the New Jersey Statutes, the undersigned corporations hereby execute the following Certificate of Merger.

ARTICLE ONE

The names of the corporations proposing to merge and the states under the laws of which such corporations are organized, are as follows:

Name of Corporation

State of Incorporation

Lofts Seed, Inc. Lofts Mergereo, Inc.

New Jersey Nevada

ARTICLE TWO

The laws of the State of Nevada, the state under which such foreign corporation is organized, permit such merger and the applicable provisions of the laws of said jurisdiction have been, or upon compliance with filing and recording requirements will have been, complied with.

ARTICLE THREE

The name of the surviving corporation shall be Lofts Mergerco, Inc. and it shall be governed by the laws of the State of Nevada.

The address of the surviving corporation's registered office is 2700 Sunset Rd., Las Vegas, Nevada 89120 and the name of the registered agent at such address is Johnny Thomas.

ARTICLE FOUR

The following plan of Merger was approved by the shareholders of the undersigned domestic corporation in the manner prescribed by the New Jersey Business Corporation Act, and was approved by the undersigned foreign corporation in the manner prescribed by the laws of the State under which it is organized:

0100731429

STATE OF NEVADA

CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT OF

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF

LOFTS MERGERCO, INC.

JAN 2 6 1998

HELLER SECRETARY OF STATE

Pursuant to the provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes, Title 7, Chapter 78, the undersigned officers do hereby certify:

FIRST: The name of the Corporation is Lofts Mergerco, Inc.

SECOND: The Board of Directors of the Corporation duly adopted the following resolutions on January 10, 1998:

RESOLVED, that it is advisable in the judgment of the Board of Directors of the Corporation that the name of the Corporation be changed, and that, in order to accomplish the same, Article FIRST of the Articles of Incorporation be amended to read as follows:

"FIRST: The name of the corporation (hereitafter called the Corporation) is Lofts Seed Company, Inc."

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a special meeting of the sole stockholder having voting power be and it is hereby called and that notice be given in the manner prescribed by the By-laws of the Corporation and by Nevada Revised Statutes, Title 7, Chapter 78, unless the said stockholder shall waive the notice of meeting in writing or unless the said stockholder shall dispense with the holding of a meeting and shall take action upon the proposed amendment by a consent in writing signed by the sole stockholder, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event that the said stockholder aball adopt the aforesaid proposed amendment by a vote in favor thereof by at least a majority of the voting power or by a written consent in favor thereof signed by the sole stockholder without a meeting, the Corporation is hereby authorized to make by the hands of its President or a Vice President and by its Secretary or an Assistant Secretary a certificate setting forth the said amendment and to cause the same to be filed pursuant to the provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes, Title 7, Chapter 78.

THIRD: The total number of outstanding shares having voting power of the Corporation is 200, and the total number of votes entitled to be cast by the holder of all of said outstanding shares is 200.

FOURTII: The holder of all of the aforesaid total number of outstanding shares having voting power dispensed with the holding of a meeting of the sole stockholder and adopted the amendment herein certified by a consent in writing signed by the sole stockholder in accordance with the provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes, Title 7, Section 78.320.

January <u>22</u>, 1998

LOFTS MERGERCO, INC.

Johnny R. Thomas

President

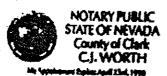
Kathleen L. Gillespie Assistant Secretary

Siste of Nevada)

) SS.:

County of Clark)

On January 22, 1998, personally appeared before me, a Notary Public, for the State and County aforesaid, Johnny R. Thomas, as President and Kathleen L. Gillespie, as Assistant Secretary of Lofts Mergerco, Inc., who acknowledged that they executed the above instrument.



Notary Public

IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEVADA

NOV 2 9 1999

10-59

DEAN HELLER, SECRETARY OF STATE

ARTICLES OF MERGER
OF
LOFTS SEED COMPANY, INC.
INTO
AGRIBIOTECH, INC.

Pursuant to the provisions of N.S.R. § 92A.180 and N.R.S. § 92A.200, AgriBioTech, Inc., a Nevada corporation, hereby submits these Articles of Merger for the purpose of merging Lofts Seed Company, Inc., a Nevada corporation and wholly-owned subsidiary of AgriBioTech, Inc., into AgriBioTech, Inc.

ARTICLE I. <u>Corporations Proposing to Merge and Surviving Corporation</u>

The name of the merging corporation is Lofts Seed Company, Inc., a Nevada corporation (hereinafter called the "Subsidiary Corporation"); and the name of the corporation which shall be the surviving corporation is AgriBioTech, Inc., a Nevada corporation (hereinafter called the "Parent Corporation").

ARTICLE II. Adoption of Plan of Merger

The Plan of Merger set forth in Article IV was duly adopted by the Parent Corporation and the Subsidiary Corporation.

ARTICLE III. Approval by Shareholders

Pursuant to N.R.S. § 92A.180, neither the approval of the Shareholders of the Parent Corporation, nor the approval of the Shareholders of the Subsidiary Corporation was required.

ARTICLE IV. Plan of Merger

The following Plan of Merger was duly approved on November 15, 1999, in the manner prescribed by law with respect to each of the corporations participating in the Merger:

Section 1. <u>Corporations Proposing to Merge and Surviving Corporation</u>. The name of the merging corporation is Lofts Seed Company, Inc., a Nevada corporation (hereinafter called the "Subsidiary Corporation"); and the name of the corporation which shall be the surviving corporation is AgriBioTech, Inc., a Nevada corporation (hereinafter called the "Parent Corporation").

- Section 2. <u>Effective Time of Merger</u>. The effective time of the merger shall be November 29, 1999 at 11:59 p.m. E.S.T. (the "Effective Time").
- Section 3. <u>Effects of Merger</u>. The Merger shall have the effects set forth in N.R.S. § 92A.250.
- Section 4. <u>Conversion of Shares</u>. Each share of capital stock of the Subsidiary Corporation issued and outstanding at the Effective Time shall, as of the Effective Time, by virtue of the Merger and without any action on the part of the holder thereof, be canceled and extinguished without consideration given therefor. The shares of capital stock of the Surviving Corporation shall continue to be outstanding without change.
- Section 5. <u>Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws</u>. The Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws of the Surviving Corporation as in effect immediately prior to the Effective Time shall become the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Surviving Corporation following the Effective Time until changed in accordance with their terms and applicable law.

[Signature page to follow]

This the 15 day of November, 1999.

| Adidbio i bell, live., a vevada corporation |
|---|
| Ву: |
| Randy Ingram, Executive Vice President |
| By: Doyles A Fish |
| Douglas A. Fisher, Secretary |
| LOFTS SEED COMPANY, INC., a Nevad |
| By: /hel |
| Randy Ingram, President |
| By: Dou Sta A Fis L |
| Douglas A. Fisher, Secretary |

SECURITY AGREEMENT AGRICULTURAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COLLATERAL (Plant Variety Protection Act Certificates)

| STATE OF |) |
|-----------|--------|
| |) SS.: |
| COUNTY OF |) |

WHEREAS, LOFTS SEED INC., a New Jersey corporation (the "Company"), is the listed owner of certain plant variety protection applications and certificates issued by the United States Department of Agriculture Plant Variety Protection Office (the "PVPO")all of which are as of this date as set forth on Schedule A (the "PVPs"), and

WHEREAS, the Company is the sole owner of the entire right, title and interest in and to the PVPs except as otherwise indicated in Schedule A and

WHEREAS, the Company has entered into a Loan and Security Agreement, dated on or about the date hereof (the "Loan Agreement"), between the Company as borrower and Branch Banking and Trust Company (the "Lender"), pursuant to which the Lender has, on the date hereof, made certain loans and other financial accommodations to the Company and may, from time to time hereafter, make additional loans to the Company, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Loan Agreement, the Company has agreed to grant to the Lender a continuing security interest in, and a continuing lien on, all of the Company's right, title and interest in and to the following (collectively the "Agricultural Intellectual Property Collateral"),

- (a) the PVPs, and
- (b) all proceeds thereof to which the Company is entitled, including, but not limited to, any claims and demands arising out of any infringement of the PVPs, including the right to settle disputes concerning such claims and demands,

to secure the payment and performance of the Obligations and Other Obligations (as defined in the Loan Agreement).

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the Company does hereby grant to the Lender a continuing security interest in, and a continuing lien on, the Company's rights in the Agricultural Intellectual Property Collateral as security for the payment and performance of the Secured Obligations.

The Company hereby appoints Lender with full power of substitution, to file and record this Security Agreement in the PVPO, to transact all business in the PVPO, to receive any confirmatory documents relating thereto, and to take any and all action before the PVPO to give effect to this Agreement and to the Loan Agreement referred to herein.

The Company hereby further acknowledges and affirms that the rights and remedies of the Lender with respect to the security interest in and lien upon the Company's rights in the Agricultural Intellectual Property Collateral made and granted hereby are more fully set forth in the Loan Agreement, the terms and provisions of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein.

Further, by this Security Agreement, the Company agrees to assign to Lender, upon the occurrence of an Event of Default by the Company (as defined in the Loan Agreement), all of the Company's rights in and to the Agricultural Intellectual Property Collateral; provided that this assignment is expressly contingent upon the occurrence of an Event of Default.

This Security Agreement will become effective June 28, 1996 at the Effective Time of the Merger of Budd Acquisition, Inc., a New Jersey corporation, with and into Lofts Seed Inc., a New Jersey corporation, as provided in a Certificate of Merger to be filed with the New Jersey Secretary of State's office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused this Security Agreement to be duly executed by its authorized officer of agent as of June 28, 1996.

[Corporate Seal]

LOFTS SEED INC.

Title: CEO

On June 28, 1996, Richard P.Duld personally came before me, Frances D. July and State, Richard P. Buld who being by me duly sworn, says that he is of Lofts Seed Inc., and that said writing was signed and sealed by him on behalf of said corporation by its authority duly given. The said related P. Budd acknowledged the said writing to be the act and deed of the corporation.

WITNESS my hand and notarial seal.

My Commission Expires: 2-9-97

Dated this day of June 1996.

FRANCES D. SWING

R#0185253.01

SCHEDULE A AGRICULTURAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COLLATERAL (CERTIFICATES OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION)

A. KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS

| VARIETY NAME | NUMBER | DATE APPLIED | DATE ISSUED | EXPIRES |
|----------------------------|---------|--------------|-------------|----------|
| Princeton P105 | 9600228 | 4-22-96 | Pending | |
| Eagleton | 9600277 | 6-11-96 | Pending | |
| Preakness | 9500090 | 2-13-95 | Pending | |
| Mystic | 8100157 | 8-26-81 | 5-27-82 | 5-27-00 |
| Georgetown | 8200187 | 1982 | 7-24-83 | 7-21-01 |
| Lofts 1757 | 8800230 | 1988 | 9-30-92 | 9-30-10 |
| Laser (Rough Bluegrass) | 8900288 | 1989 | 10-31-91 | 10-31-09 |
| Co-owned PVPs | | | | |
| 243 (Nassau)* | 8400005 | 1983 | 12-21-84 | 12-21-02 |
| Suffolk* | 8800072 | 1988 | 5-31-88 | 5-31-06 |
| Ram I** | 7800069 | 1978 | 3-15-79 | 3-15-96 |

^{*} Jacklin Seed Company listed as co-owner

B. PERENNIAL RYEGRASS

| VARIETY NAME | NUMBER | DATE APPLIED | DATE ISSUED | EXPIRES |
|-----------------|---------|--------------|-------------|---------|
| Palmer | 8200178 | 9-8-82 | 5-31-84 | 5-31-02 |
| Palmer II | 9200209 | 6-16-92 | Pending | |
| Prelude | 8200177 | 9-8-82 | 5-31-84 | 5-31-02 |
| Prelude II | 9200210 | 6-16-92 | Pending | |
| Yorktown III | 9200212 | 6-16-92 | Pending | |

^{**} Mrs. Barbara B. Curtis listed as co-owner

| VARIETY NAME | NUMBER | DATE APPLIED | DATE ISSUED | EXPIRES |
|-----------------|---------|--------------|-------------|----------|
| Repell | 8400148 | 8-30-84 | 11-29-85 | 11-29-03 |
| Yorktown II | 7800001 | 10-6-77 | 5-1-80 | 5-1-97 |
| Repell II | 9200211 | 6-16-92 | Pending | |

C. TALL FESCUE

| VARIETY NAME | NUMBER | DATE APPLIED | DATE ISSUED | EXPIRES |
|-----------------|---------|--------------|-------------|----------|
| Rebel | 8000153 | 8-21-80 | 5-14-81 | 5-14-99 |
| Rebel III | 9500129 | 4-10-95 | Pending | |
| Rebel Jr. | 9000240 | 1990 | 11-30-92 | 11-30-10 |
| Rebel 3D | 9300200 | 4-21-93 | Pending | |
| Tribute | 8800235 | 9-15-88 | 2-28-90 | 2-28-08 |
| Clemfine | 8200175 | 9-7-82 | 2-28-83 | 2-28-01 |
| Rebel II | 8700195 | 1987 | 1-15-88 | 1-15-06 |

D. FINE FESCUE

| VARIETY NAME | NUMBER | DATE APPLIED | DATE ISSUED | EXPIRES |
|-----------------|---------|--------------|-------------|---------|
| Reliant | 8200168 | 1982 | 2-28-83 | 2-28-01 |
| Jamestown II | 9100254 | 1991 | 8-31-95 | 8-31-15 |

E. BENTGRASS

| VARIETY NAME | NUMBER | DATE APPLIED | DATE ISSUED | EXPIRES |
|-----------------|---------|--------------|-------------|----------|
| L93 | 9600256 | 5-8-96 | Pending | |
| Southshore | 9200256 | 1992 | 10-31-94 | 10-31-12 |

F. OTHER

| VARIETY NAME | NUMBER | DATE APPLIED | DATE ISSUED | EXPIRES |
|-----------------------------------|---------|--------------|-------------|---------|
| Salty (weeping alkaligrass) | 9500128 | 4-10-95 | Pending | |
| Laser II (rough bluegrass) | 9500238 | 6-15-95 | Pending | |

RECORDATION FORM COVER SHEET PVP CERTIFICATES ONLY

| To the Acting Commissioner of the Plant Variety Protection Office | e. Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof. | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Name of conveying party(ies): | 2. Name and address of receiving party(ies): | | | | |
| LOFTS SEED COMPANY, INC. | Name: BANKAMERICA BUSINESS CREDIT, INC. | | | | |
| ☐ Individual(s) ☐ Association ☐ General Partnership ☐ Limited Partnership ☐ Corporation - State Nevada ☐ Other | Street Address: 55 South Lake Avenue, Suite 900 City: Pasadena State: California ZIP: 91101 | | | | |
| 3. Nature of conveyance: □ Assignment □ Merger □ Security Agreement □ Change of Name □ Other □ Execution Date: June 23,1998 | ☐ Individual(s) citizenship ☐ Association ☐ General Partnership ☐ Limited Partnership ☐ Corporation-State Delaware ☐ Other ☐ If assignee is not domiciled in the United States, a domestic representative designation is attached: ☐ Yes ☐ No (Designation must be a separate document from Assignment) Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No | | | | |
| 4. PVP certificate identifying information: | 4. PVP certificate identifying information: | | | | |
| A. PVP No.: 8200168 | | | | | |
| B. Date certificate issued or application filed: 02/28/83 | | | | | |
| C. Variety: "RELIANT | " Fescue, hard | | | | |
| Additional numbers attached? □ Yes No | | | | | |
| 5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed: Name: Tamsen Valoir Jenkens & Gilchrist Internal Address: Street Address: 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 3200 City: Dallas State: Texas Zip: 75202-2799 | 6. Total number of PVP applications or certificates involved: 1 7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41): \$ | | | | |
| DO NOT USE THIS SPACE | | | | | |
| 9. Statement and signature. | | | | | |
| To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document. Tamsen Valoir Name of Person Signing Signature June 30, 1998 Date | | | | | |
| | Total number of pages comprising cover sheet: | | | | |

PVP CERTIFICATE ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, LOFTS SEED COMPANY, INC., a Nevada corporation ("Assignor"), having a business address of 191 Budd Blvd., Winston Salem, NC 27114, is the owner of the pending or issued Plant Protection Act (PVP) certificate(s) listed below; and

WHEREAS, BankAmerica Business Credit, Inc., a Delaware corporation, having an office at 55 South Lake Avenue, Suite 900, Pasedena, California 91101 as "Agent" for the "Lenders" as defined and described in the Loan and Security Agreement dated as of June 23, 1998 ("Assignee"), is desirous of acquiring a SECURITY INTEREST in such PVP certificate(s);

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, said Assignor does hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over unto the said Assignee a SECURITY INTEREST in, to, and under the PVP certificate(s):

No. 9200256 Issued
No. 9500090 Pending
No. 9600228 Pending
No. 9600277 Pending
No. 8100157 Issued
No. 8200187 Issued
No. 8800230 Issued
No. 9500238 Pending
No. 8900288 Issued
No. 9300200 Pending
No. 9500129 Pending
No. 8000153 Issued
No. 8200175 Issued
No. 8700195 Issued
No. 8800235 Issued

No. 9600256 Pending

No. 9200211 Pending No. 9200212 Pending

No. 9000240 Issued No. 9200209 Pending No. 9200210 Pending

No. 8200177 Issued No. 8200178 Issued

No. 8400148 Issued

No. 8200168 Issued No. 9100254 Issued

No. 9500128 Issued

1

LOFTS SEED COMPANY, INC.

Printed Name: Henry A. Ingalls

Title: Vice President

STATE OF TEXAS

8

COUNTY OF DALLAS

8

Henry A. Ingalls, Vice President, of LOFTS SEED COMPANY, INC., personally appeared before me, and being first duly sworn declared that he signed the security agreement in the capacity designated, and further states that he has read the above security agreement, and the statements therein contained are true.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 23 day of June, 1998.

My Commission Expires:

Printed Name



Gregory J. Hausdorf Notary Public, State of Texas My Comm. Expires 08/15/60

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

BOX ASSIGNMENT Acting Commissioner of the Plant Variety Protection Office Plant Variety Protection Office 10301 Baltimore Blvd. Beltsville, MD 20705-2351.

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence,

74 Cover sheets
74 Assignments
Check in the amount of \$1,850.00 (74 x \$25.00)
74 Return postcards

for the attached (in Exhibit A) PVP certificate numbers are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, mailing label number EE507465254US, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to:

BOX ASSIGNMENT Acting Commissioner of the Plant Variety Protection Office Plant Variety Protection Office 10301 Baltimore Blvd. Beltsville, MD 20705-2351.

Date: July 1, 1998

JPHOU:15412.1 20992-00039

Jenkens & Gilchrist

1100 LOUISIANA STREET, SUITE 1800 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002 Texas Commerce Bank, N.A. 301 W. Beauregard San Angelo, Texas 76903 903870

July 1, 1998

\$1,850.00

One Thousand Fifty Dollars and 00 Cents

ORDER

U. S. Department Of Agriculture Plant Variety Protection Office

TWO SIGNATURES REQUIRED OVER \$2500
VOID AFTER 180 DAYS

NOT VALID FOR OVER \$5000

#0903870# ::111300880: #06300009654#

INITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

BOX ASSIGNMENT Acting Commissioner of the Plant Variety Protection Office Plant Variety Protection Office 10301 Baltimore Blvd. Beltsville, MD 20705-2351.

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence,

74 Cover sheets 74 Assignments Check in the amount of \$1,850.00 (74 x \$25.00) 74 Return postcards

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Date: July 1, 1998

IPHOU:15412.1 20992-00039

Jenkens & Gilchrist

1100 LOUISIANA STREET, SUITE 1800 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002

TEXAS COMMERCE BANK, N.A. 301 W. BEAUREGARD San Angelo, Texas 76903

903870

1998

\$1,850.00*

One Thousand Fifty Dollars and 00 Cents.

FO THE DROER DF

U. S. Department Of Agriculture Plant Variety Protection Office

TWO SIGNATURES REQUIRED OVER \$2500

VOID AFTER 180 DAYS NOT VALID FOR OVER \$5000

#0903870# #1111300880# #06300009654#